

AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Supplies & Transport

Item number: 25/27/24

Title: 1st Australian Divisional Supply
Column

October 1917



AWM4-25/27/24



Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place Date Hour Summary of Events and Information Remarks and references to Appendices

IN THE FIELD

1/11/17

9 a.m.

- Location :- from 1st.ult. to 25th.,ult. K.31.d.4.2. Sheet 27.
- Location:- from 26th.ult.,to 31st.ult. G.32.d.5.4. Sheet 28.
- Railhead:- from 1st.ult.,to 10th.ult. DICKEBUSCH
- Railhead:- from 11th.ult.,to 23 th.ult., RENINGHELST
- Railhead:- from 24th ult.,to 31st.ult., DICKEBUSCH.

Supply Section has been detached at Reninghelst during the preceeding month, and loaded on to Horse Transport. Practically no supply work has been done for the Division and lorries have been detailed by S.M.T.O. on Corps work, principally Salvage, carrying troops to the forward area, and evacuating wounded.

On the 2nd.ult., 20 lorries were detached at YPRES for evacuation of wounded working between the A.D.S. Menin Road and the C.C.S. Wippenhoek, after doing almost continuous work, they returned to park on the 10th.ult. Letters of congratulation have again been received for the good work done, and are attached.

On the 23rd.ult., 13 lorries were again detached for the evacuation of wounded, they returned to park on 26th.ult. During the night 24th, 25th, ult., two of these lorries were hit by enemy shell fire, they were not sufficiently damaged to warrant evacuation, and are at present in our workshops undergoing repairs.

5 Subsidy type Dennis lorries have been taken on the column from the Base, to replace 5 which were evacuated as unserviceable for work at the front.

The total miles travelled by the column for the month as per returns rendered to S.M.T.O. daily is, (loaded 20614, Empty 23108,) Total, 43722., the number of loads of various kinds carried is 2405, and the petrol used 9644 gallons.

The weather for the month has been very wet and boistrous, and transport work has been rendered more difficult in consequence.

Our present camp, when taken over on the 26th., ult., was in a particularly bad condition owing to the continued rain and traffic, and a great deal of work has had to be done in the way of carting and spreading metal, and in the erection of Workshop stands and shelters for the men.

The following changes have taken place in the Officers of the Unit:- Lieut. W.J. Mullett (Road Officer), transferred to No. 2 Aust. Amm. Sub Park as Workshop officer, Lieut. H. Hartley, Workshop Officer, transferred to No. 4 Aust. Div. Supply Column, (a newly formed unit with Australian personnel), in the same capacity W.O. Class 1.G. Moffat being promoted 2/Lieut., and taking his place in this Unit. Lieut. A.N. de Fraga, from Adjutant "K" Supply Column, has been transferred to this Unit as Road Officer vice Lieut. Mullett transferred.

The health of the men in the Unit has been good, food is plentiful and of good quality, and clothing is good.

W. R. Shirlaw Major. Commandg. No. 1 Aust. Div. Supply Column.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.

To
A.D.M.S.

4th Australian Division.

I beg to draw your attention to the very great assistance rendered by Lieut. Mullett, A.S.C. (M.T.) in the evacuation of wounded from the A.D.S. During the period Sept. 25th to 28th the evacuation of walking wounded from the Menin Road A.D.S. was carried out almost entirely by Motor Lorry, only one train being available during that time. Lieut. Mullett was always at hand, at whatever time of the day or night and invariably produced more lorries whenever a call was made for them. To his indefatigable attention a large part of the success of the evacuation may be attributed.

(Sgd) H. Follett, Lieut. Colonel
O.C. 4th. Australian Field Ambulance.

D.D.M.S.
1st. Anzac.

Forwarded to you as this officer was I understand under your administration.

2/10/17

(Sgd) G.W. Banlin, Colonel.
A.D.M.S. 4th. Aust. Division.

S.M.T.O.
1st. Anzac.

Forwarded.
This Officer rendered very valuable service during the recent offensive, in the evacuation of lightly wounded by lorry.

5/10/17

(Sgd) Clement Chapman, Major for
Colonel
A.D.M.S. 1st. Anzac Corps.

Officer Commanding
No. 1 Aust. Div. Supply Column
-- Through "K" Supply Column.

For your information, and please ~~NOTE~~ communicate with the Officer concerned.
It gives me much pleasure in forwarding this appreciation.

8/10/17

(Sgd) W.H. Tunbridge Lieut. Colonel
S.M.T.O. 1st. Anzac Corps.

O.C.

1st. Aust. Div. Supply Column.

Will you please bring to the notice of Lieut. Mullett of your Unit, the contents of this file of correspondence in connection with his work of evacuating lightly wounded by lorry.

I have much pleasure in adding my own appreciation, for, on account of the several visits I have made, I have been able to see how thoroughly and with what self-sacrifice he has carried out this excellent work.

10/10/17

(Sgd) Alfred Moon, Lieut. Colonel.,
Commandg. "K" Supply Column.

